

Removing Finality from Failure

Mark 14:43, 46, 50-52; Acts 13:13; 15:37, 38

- I. “Everyone deserted him and fled,” Mark 14:50.
- II. “The arresting officers seized a young man who followed Jesus,” Mark 14:51.
- III. “He fled naked, leaving his garment behind, Mark 14:52. (33 AD)
- IV. Mark deserts Paul and Barnabas, failing to continue the missionary trip, Acts 13:13. (44 AD)
- V. Mark, the failure becomes successful: writes the first Gospel.
- VI. Removing finality from failure.
 - A. Remember that failure is an event
 1. Everyone sees Mark’s failures, Mark 14:52; Acts 13:13.
 2. Failure is an event that happens to a person.
 3. Failure is not a person, Proverbs 24:16; Psalm 37:24.
 4. No failure is terminal; you can recover from all failures, Hebrews 11:32.
 5. Mark was a success to whom failure occasionally happened, Jeremiah 17:7-8; 29:11.
 6. Mark passed through events called “failure” on his way to success, Proverbs 2:7; 4:18.
 7. Put events behind you, Isaiah 43:18; Philippians 3:13.
 - B. Let God work out the effect of failure.
 1. Failure’s effect: missed promotion, Acts 15:37, 38.
 2. But God wasn’t through with Mark – still needed a written biography.
 3. God continued his work in Mark, Philippians 2:13.
 4. Our shout in the face of failure, Micah 7:8; Isaiah 38:17; Philippians 1:12.
- VII. God’s finished project, 2 Timothy 4:11.

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